

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: BEXP, EEWT, UR, US

SUBJECT: INQUIRY REGARDING POWDER DETERGENT PLANT

1. ROBERT W. COUGHLIN, V.P. OF PNEUMATIC SCALE CORP., QUINCY, MASSACHUSETTS, RECENTLY VISITED BEWT SEEKING INFORMATION ON POWDER DETERGENT PLANT, REPORTEDLY ONLY IN PLANNING STAGES AT THIS TIME. COUGHLIN'S FIRM IS WORKING THROUGH COLGATE-PALMOLIVE, WHICH WAS ASKED TO SUBMIT PROPOSALS AS ENGINEERING CONSULTANT AND IS RECOMMENDING PNEUMATIC SCALE'S EQUIPMENT FOR 15 PACKAGING LINES WORTH SOME DOLLARS 4 MILLION. ACCORDING TO COUGHLIN, TECHMASH-IMPORT WILL BE FTO RESPONSIBLE FOR THESE EQUIPMENT PURCHASES.

2. COUGHLIN THINKS SOVIETS ALSO SEEKING BIDS FROM ITALIAN FIRM TECHNOPELROL, WHICH COULD SERVE AS GENERAL CONTRACTOR AND SUPPLY EQUIPMENT SIMILAR TO PNEUMATIC SCALE'S BUT SOURCED IN ITALY.

3. PNEUMATIC SCALE HAS ALSO RECEIVED REQUESTS FOR QUOTES

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ON ITS EQUIPMENT FROM JAPANESE FIRMS KAOSOAP AND LION FAT

AND OIL BUT IS NOT CERTAIN THESE ARE FOR SAME SOVIET PROJECT SINCE SPECIFICATIONS DIFFER SOMEWHAT FROM THOSE REQUESTED BY COLGATE.

4. BEWT WOULD APPRECIATE WHATEVER INFORMATION COMMERCIAL OFFICE MAY BE ABLE TO OBTAIN ABOUT THIS PROJECT FROM SOVIETS OR ITALIAN AND JAPANESE COMMERCIAL REPS IN MOSCOW.
KISSINGER

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